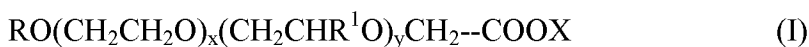


Amendments to the Claims:

Claims 1-11 (Canceled)

Claims 12-20 (Canceled)

21. (Currently Amended) A well servicing composition flowable and pumpable at ~~50~~ 5° to 20°C. comprising a continuous oil phase in admixture with a quantity of a disperse aqueous phase of a w/o invert type which optionally contains at least one dissolved auxiliary, and/or dispersed auxiliary, or combinations thereof selected from the group consisting of thickeners, fluid loss additives, wetting agents, fine-particle weighting agents, salts, alkali reserves and biocides, wherein, the composition contains a compound of formula:



wherein, R is a saturated or unsaturated, branched or unbranched alkyl or alkenyl group containing 6 to 22 carbon atoms, x is a number from 1 to 20 and y is 0 or a number from 1 to 20, provided that the sum of x and y is at least 1 and at most 25, R¹ is an alkyl group containing 1 to 4 carbon atoms and X comprises at least one member selected from the group consisting of a hydrogen atom, monovalent ~~anions~~ cations and polyvalent ~~anions~~ cations.

22. (Currently Amended) ~~[[A]]~~ The well servicing composition as claimed in claim 21, wherein the oil phase comprises at least one member selected from the group consisting of

(a) carboxylic acid esters of formula: R'--COO--R" (II) where R' is a saturated or unsaturated, linear or branched alkyl group containing 5 to 23 carbon atoms and R" is an

alkyl group containing 1 to 22 carbon atoms, which may be saturated or unsaturated,
linear or branched,

(b) linear or branched olefins containing 8 to 30 carbon atoms,

(c) water-insoluble, symmetrical or nonsymmetrical ethers of monohydric alcohols of
natural or synthetic origin which contain 1 to 24 carbon atoms,

(d) water-insoluble alcohols of formula: $R'''-OH$ (III) where R''' is a saturated,
unsaturated, linear or branched alkyl group containing 8 to 24 carbon atoms,

(e) carbonic acid diesters,

(f) paraffins, and

(g) acetals.

Claims 23-30 (Canceled)

31. (New) The well servicing composition of claim 21, which contains at least one
aqueous phase and one oil phase, wherein the emulsifier comprises the ether carboxylic acid of
formula (I).

32. (New) The well servicing composition of claim 21, wherein an emulsifier in the
well servicing composition which forms a water-in-oil or oil-in-water emulsion comprises the
ether carboxylic acid of formula (I).

33. (New) The well servicing composition of claim 21 comprising: a water-based emulsion system which contains at least one ester of saturated or unsaturated, branched or unbranched monocarboxylic acids containing 1 to 24 carbon atoms with monohydric, linear or branched, saturated or unsaturated alcohols containing 1 to 24 carbon atoms in an oil phase.

34. (New) The well servicing composition of claim 21, comprising a drilling fluid system which contains at least one member selected from the group consisting of linear alpha-olefins, internal olefins, and paraffins in the oil phase.

35. (New) The well servicing composition of claim 21, wherein the ether carboxylic acid of formula (I), comprises an ether carboxylic acid in which y is 0.

36. (New) The well servicing composition of claim 21, wherein the ether carboxylic acids of formula (I), comprises an ether carboxylic acid in which x is a number from 1 to 15.

37. (New) The well servicing composition of claim 21, wherein the ether carboxylic acid is present in quantities of 0.1 to 25% by weight, based on the weight of the well servicing composition.

38. (New) The well servicing composition of claim 21, wherein the well servicing composition additionally comprises free fatty acids.

39. (New) The well servicing composition of claim 36, wherein the ether carboxylic acid of formula (I) comprises an ether carboxylic acid wherein X is a number of from 1 to 10.

40. (New) The well servicing composition of claim 36, wherein the ether carboxylic acid of formula (I) comprises an ether carboxylic acid wherein X is a number of from 1 to 8.

41. (New) The well servicing composition of claim 37, wherein the ether carboxylic acids is present in a quantity of from 0.1 to 10% by weight.

42. (New) The well servicing composition of claim 37, wherein the ether carboxylic acid is present in a quantity of from 0.1 to 5% by weight.

43. (New) The well servicing composition of claim 36, wherein y is 0.

44. (New) The well servicing composition of claim 32 containing from 1% to 15% by weight of the ether carboxylic acid based on the weight of the oil phase.

45. (New) The well servicing composition of claim 21, wherein the ether carboxylic acid comprises an ether carboxylic acid present as a salt.

46. (New) The well servicing composition of claim 21 comprising a liquid phase containing from 10% to 30% water and from 70% to 90% oil based on the liquid phase as a whole.

47. (New) The well servicing composition of claim 22, wherein (b) comprises α -olefins, internal olefins, poly- α -olefins, or combinations thereof.

48. (New) The well servicing composition of claim 47, wherein (b) comprises compounds containing 12 to 30 carbon atoms in the molecule.

49. (New) The well servicing composition of claim 22, wherein said oil phase comprises at least 50% by weight of the oil phase of a mixture of compounds (a) to (g).